

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING  
EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
OPEN SESSION  
MAY 14, 2012**

**The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 8:45 am on the above date in room 401 of the Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meetings Law, so called, and other applicable sections of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island as amended.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Linda Twardowski, RN, MS  
Sandra Megerdichian, RN, MS  
Peggy Matteson, RN, PhD, President  
Linda Damon, RN, MS, Vice President  
Anne Tierney, RN, CRNA  
Jeannine Borozny, RN  
Kristen Young, RN  
Carol Cairns, RN, MS  
Manuel Raposa  
Cristiana Rosa, MS, RN**

## **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Joslin, Leasca, RN, MS RNP**

**Michelle Cahill, LPN, Secretary**

## **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Sandra Clark, MA, RN**

**Linda TetuMouradjian, RN, MS**

**Jennifer Sternick, Esq.**

## **1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM**

**President Matteson called the meeting to order at 8:45am. A quorum was established.**

## **2. PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF April 9, 2012**

**On motion of Ms. Raposa seconded by Ms. Borozny, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes as presented.**

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## **3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**• Dr. Matteson informed the Board she agreed to serve on the Interview Panel for the Position of the State Director of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education; however she has not been notified as to when the interviewing process will begin.**

## **4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- The Community College of Rhode Island, Lincoln Campus was visited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, and was successful in meeting the criteria for continuing accreditation.

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## **5. BUSINESS**

- Dr. Matteson presented a preliminary review of the Decision Tree for RN Scope of Practice to the Board. Dr. Matteson requested the Board consider posting the Decision Tree guidelines on line to assist the public with the decision making process in regard to issues relating to scope of practice and the Nurse Practice Act. The Board will make a recommendation at the June 11th Board Meeting.

- Dr. Matteson presented a preliminary review of the Decision Tree for determination of the delegation of tasks/duties by RNs and LPNs. The Board will review the Delegation Decision Making Tree tool and make a recommendation in regard to its use at the June 11th Board Meeting.

- Follow up discussion to the April Meeting of the Board in regard to the delegation of RN and LPN duties in Dialysis Centers to Unlicensed staff. This question was initially brought to the Board by the Office of Facilities Regulation in February 2012. The question brought before the Board was “Is it appropriate for unlicensed patient care technicians in kidney dialysis centers to inject heparin and saline into patient lines?” The Board’s determination was “The Board

reviewed the delegation language in the Rules and Regulation. Section 11.1 restricts delegation of nursing activities to unlicensed individuals that are consistent with the level of knowledge, skills, training, experience, and cultural awareness of the unlicensed assistive personnel when the client's health status is stable and predictable. In that dialysis patients are not likely to be stable and predictable as defined in regulation, on motion of Ms. Twardowski, seconded by Ms. Rosa, the Board voted unanimously that delegation of this activity to unlicensed patient care technicians is not authorized by the Rules and Regulations for the Licensing of Nurses.” The question was placed before the Board if there was a Motion to change the decision made in February? There was no Motion. The decision stands.

- Response to changes to School Health Regulations related to administration of medication to students by Certified School Nurse Teachers. A request for an advisory opinion from the Rhode Island Certified School Nurse-Teachers regarding current revisions to the School Health Regulations was presented to the Board at the March 2012 Board Meeting. The specific regulation involved over the counter medication (OTC) being administered by the school nurse with parental authorization. Currently School nurses administer all medications in accordance with written order from the licensed healthcare provider. The proposed language in the revised regulations states “All OTC medications shall be administered only with written parent authorization. All medications shall be

administered in keeping with safe standards of health care practice and in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations and in accordance with age appropriate instructions on the OTC medication labels.” It is the position of the Board that all medication, over-the counter and prescription, administered by a nurse-teacher must be prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider with prescriptive privileges. A Motion for a letter of support from the Board in regard to the Board’s position on the issue of the administration of all medications by the nurse-teacher was made by Ms. Borozny and seconded by Ms. Megerdichian. The motion unanimously passed.

- Ms. Rosa attended the NCSBN APRN Round Table Meeting on April 25, 2012 and provided the Board with updated information in regard to current and proposed changes to APRN models including proposals for changes in relating to requirements regarding evidence of competency for continued APRN certification.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Board welcomed Carol Patton, PH, FNP, BC, CRNP, CNE, the new Director of New England Institute of Technology Nursing Program.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion of Ms. Megerdichian, seconded by Ms. Raposa it was unanimously voted to move into Executive Session pursuant to 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws for the

discussion of job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure and licensees and for discussion of investigatory proceedings relating to misconduct by applicants licensure and licensees, and investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. The Open Session adjourned at 10:00 am.

## **8. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Dr. Matteson called the Open Session back to order at 1:30 pm.

## **9. VOTE TO SEAL MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS OF 42-46-5 OF THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS**

On motion of Ms. Megerdichian, seconded by Ms. Twardowski, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in the Executive Session and to seal those minutes in as much as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed.

## **10. PRESENTATION OF FINAL ACTIONS**

The Board, on unanimous vote, found no unprofessional conduct for the following:

C12-127, C11-897, C11-839, C12-186, C12-166.

The Board Ratified Orders for the following: RN09-081; RN05-013; RN11-040; PNS11-036; C12-162; C12-227.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion of Ms. Raposa, seconded by Ms. Megerdichian it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 2:15pm.**

**Respectfully submitted:**

**Sandra Clark**